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Attorney Docket No. 17564-145

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First-Named Inventor: Tang, Jie
Assignee: Fry's Metals, Inc.
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MAKING
UNIFORMLY SIZED AND SHAPED SPHERES
Original Patent No.: 5,891,212
Original Issue Date: April 6, 1999

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Box REISSUE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified reissue application, please amend the claims as follows.

Please amend claims 1, 15 and 16 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for forming and solidifying uniform sized and shaped solid spheres comprising the steps of:
- providing a supply of a low viscosity liquid material in a crucible,
 - applying a minute periodic disturbance to the low viscosity liquid material in the crucible,
 - applying a pressure to the low viscosity liquid material, the pressure forcing the material through at least one orifice in the crucible as a steady laminar stream, the stream of the material exiting into an enclosed controlled low temperature solidification environment having a temperature of less than about 0° C., the enclosed controlled low temperature solidification environment containing at least one heat transfer medium, the

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